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In Case You Missed It: "It's time to stop playing politics and to pass legislation to help Atlantic City."

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Tags: [Jobs and the Economy](#)



The Record Editorial Board

AC in limbo
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The Record

It's time to stop playing politics and to pass legislation to help Atlantic City. And that's the bill backed by Governor Christie and Senate President Stephen Sweeney. The bill may not be perfect, but it's the only game in town.

That became crystal clear Thursday when Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto, D-Secaucus, canceled a voting session that was to consider his competing bill, presumably because support for it was not there. The failure of Prieto to get his bill through a chamber he oversees was a major defeat for the speaker.

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Sweeney's bill already has passed the Senate, but Prieto has refused to call for a vote in the Assembly. That should change. Sweeney's bill deserves a vote in the Assembly. If it fails, other options will have to be considered, but let's have a vote.

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On Monday, the city made its monthly bond payment, but it's unclear if it will be able to make next month's payment. On Wednesday, a rating agency further downgraded city bonds and said a debt default or bankruptcy was a "virtual certainty." That's a pretty dreary forecast.

Notwithstanding its financial problems, Atlantic City remains a focal point of New Jersey tourism. Revenue raised by casino taxes benefits the entire state. It's important for the city to remain viable, and a state takeover is the best option.

Prieto's inability to even bring his bill to a vote should end debate on the matter. More political posturing won't help Atlantic City. It's time for the Assembly to vote on Sweeney's bill.

Full article [HERE](#).

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